



Georgia

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday
March 30,
2022

DAILY REPORT

38th
Legislative
Day

House Budget & Research Office
(404) 656-5050

- The House will reconvene for its 39th Legislative Day on Friday, April 1 at 10:00 a.m.

Today on the Floor

Motions to Insist

HB 517 Education; calculation of minimum revenue obligations for scholarships and tuition grants; provide for the inclusion of earned interest

Bill Summary: House Bill 517 amends O.C.G.A. 20-2A-2 relating to student scholarship organizations by clarifying that interest earned on deposits and investments from donations for scholarships or tuition grants will be rolled back into the fund. This Code section is further amended by requiring an audit within 120 days of completing the student scholarship organization's fiscal year to be provided to the Department of Revenue within 60 days of the audit's completion. O.C.G.A. 48-7-29.16 is amended to increase the tax credit to \$2,500 for a single individual or head of household, \$5,000 for a married couple filing a joint return, and \$25,000 or the amount expended for a business, whichever is less.

Authored By: Rep. John Carson (46th)

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured

Motions to Insist: (A motion to insist sends the bill back to the Senate for consideration.)

Motions to Agree

HB 1013 Mental Health Parity Act; enact

Bill Summary:

Part I: 'Georgia Mental Health Parity Act'

House Bill 1013 requires that health care insurance plans that provide coverage for mental health treatment or substance use disorders do so in accordance with the federal 'Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008.' Health insurers must also provide an annual comparative analysis report to the insurance commissioner, which will be available on the Office of the Commissioner of Insurance and Safety Fire's (OCI) website. Failure to submit timely reports can result in fines ranging from \$2,000 to \$5,000. The commissioner is to ensure compliance with mental health parity requirements among health insurers and establish a process for addressing complaints about mental health parity violations. Insurers that do not comply with mental health parity may face punitive action including monetary penalties, compliance plans, or reprocessing of claims. A mental health parity officer is appointed by the commissioner.

The bill revises the definition of "department" to reference OCI rather than the Department of Community Health (DCH) in the existing Act. Further, this bill creates a new definition for "generally accepted standards of mental health or substance use disorder care" and defines it as independent standards of care and clinical practice recognized by certain specialty health care providers, including psychiatry, psychology, clinical sociology, addiction medicine and counseling, and behavioral health treatment. Additionally, the definition specifies valid, evidence-based sources of accepted standards of mental health or substance use disorder care. The definition of "medical necessity," "medically-necessary care," or "medically necessary and appropriate" is also revised to include behavioral health services that screen, prevent, diagnose, manage, or treat an illness.

HB 1013 requires that state health insurers providing coverage for mental health and substance use disorders do so to the same degree as the treatment for a physical illness, and coverage extends to a spouse and dependent(s) covered under a plan. Health insurers must provide annual comparative analysis reports to the DCH commissioner, which will be available on the department's website. The DCH commissioner is to perform parity-compliance reviews of state health insurers on an annual basis as well as establish a process for addressing complaints about mental health parity violations.

The DCH and OCI commissioners are required to make reasonable efforts to provide culturally and linguistically sensitive materials to consumers through the complaint process. Health insurers are not allowed to prohibit same-day reimbursement for someone who sees separate mental health and primary care providers in the same day.

Care management organizations (CMOs) are required to maintain a minimum 85 percent medical loss ratio (MLR) or a higher minimum established in a contract between DCH and a CMO. If the minimum ratio is not met, the CMO must provide a remittance of the amount determined by DCH. The department will post on its website the aggregate MLR for all CMOs, the MLR for each CMO, and required remittances.

Part II: Workforce and System Development

The bill authorizes service cancelable educational loans for Georgia residents enrolled in educational training for primary care medicine, psychiatry, mental health, substance use, clinical nurse specialist in mental health, or other licensed clinicians or specialists. Loans are conditional on the student agreeing to practice as a professional within an approved geographical area of the state.

The Georgia Board of Health Care Workforce is required to create a Behavioral Health Care Workforce Data Base to collect and analyze surveys for behavioral health care professional applicants and licensees. Licensing boards will require these surveys to be completed by professionals upon licensure, and the surveys must include the professional's demographics, practice status, education and training, specialties, average hours worked per week, percent of practice engaged in direct care, retirement plan if retiring in the next five years, child and adolescent specialized training, information on accepting new patients, and types of accepted insurance, including Medicaid and Medicare.

Part III: Assisted Outpatient Treatment

HB 1013 creates a three-year assisted outpatient treatment grant program to establish the efficacy of the assisted outpatient treatment model in Georgia.

The bill defines "assisted outpatient treatment" as involuntary outpatient care provided by a community service board or a private provider in collaboration with other community partners in order to: identify current residents who qualify as outpatients; establish procedures that lead to a petition being filed in the appropriate probate court when an individual is believed to be an outpatient; provide evidence-based treatment and case management under an individualized plan; safeguard the due process rights of those alleged to require and those civilly committed to involuntary outpatient care; establish communication between the court and providers; continually evaluate each care plan and respond to non-compliance; partner with law enforcement agencies to provide an alternative to the arrest, incarceration, and prosecution of individuals who may qualify as outpatients; and maintain a patient's connection to treatment services upon transition to voluntary outpatient care.

The Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD) will establish a grant program for the implementation of assisted outpatient treatment and provide three years of funding, technical support, and oversight to five grantees. The grantees must be a collaboration between community service boards or private providers, probate courts or other courts with jurisdiction, and sheriffs' offices. The bill outlines the process for the application and award of the grants.

HB 1013 requires the DBHDD to contract with a third-party organization or consultant prior to awarding the grants in order to evaluate the program and its effectiveness. The grantees must provide the required information to the third-party organization or consultant, and the department must contractually require the third-party organization or consultant to produce a report and send it to the

governor and the chairpersons of the respective House and Senate Health and Human Services committees by December 31, 2025.

Current statute states that when a law enforcement officer has probable cause to believe that an individual is mentally ill and requiring involuntary treatment, the officer is able to take that person to a physician or emergency receiving facility for an examination. HB 1013 states that the officer can transport a patient to a receiving facility if they have probable cause to believe the individual is mentally ill requiring involuntary treatment and have consulted with a physician who authorizes transportation for the purpose of evaluation. The officer is required to write a detailed report about the circumstances of the person's detainment, which will become a part of the patient's clinical record. These provisions also apply to those hospitalized for and arrested for penal offenses due to substance abuse disorder.

The governing county authority where the patient is found is required to arrange initial emergency transportation, and the transportation provider is prohibited from releasing the patient to any place other than the receiving facility. At the community mental health center's request, the court is required to order the sheriff to carry out subsequent transportation appropriate to the patient's condition. The patient can also be transported by family and friends to the health center's satisfaction. No female patient is allowed to be transported without another female present unless there is an emergency situation or they are accompanied by a male family member.

Part IV: Mental Health Courts and Corrections

Subject to appropriations, the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) will create a grant program to fund accountability courts serving the mental health and co-occurring substance use disorder population to implement trauma-informed treatment and designate an employee to issue technical assistance to the courts. The council will also create a grant program to fund emergency transportation cost for local governments depending on funds.

HB 1013 adds to the list of authorized expenditures of the County Drug Abuse Treatment and Education Fund to include drug abuse treatment and education programs relating to controlled substances, alcohol, and marijuana for adults and children. Additionally, the fund can be used by a mental health court division that serves those with co-occurring substance use disorders.

The bill expands the powers and duties of the Office of Health Strategy and Coordination (OHSC) to: partner with the Department of Corrections and Department of Juvenile Justice to evaluate mental health wraparound services to meet client needs in the state reentry plan; partner with the Department of Community Supervision to evaluate the ability to share mental health data between agencies in order to facilitate identifying and treating people under community supervision who receive community-based mental health services; oversee coordination of mental health policy and behavioral health services across state agencies; develop and implement a solution to ensure appropriate health care services and supports; develop solutions to systemic barriers impeding delivery of behavioral health services; focus on goals to resolve issues related to behavioral health services; monitor and evaluate implementation of goals and recommendations to improve behavioral health access; establish common outcome measures to evaluate agencies in overseeing mental health services; and create a comprehensive formulary for behavioral health prescriptions under state health plans. Lastly, OHSC is to examine ways to increase certified peer specialists in rural and other underserved or unserved communities and conduct a survey or study on the emergency transport of individuals.

The state will fund at least five new co-responder programs, each of which will have a minimum of one team. Behavioral health co-responders are included in the entities trained at the Georgia Public Safety Training Center.

The Mental Health Courts and Corrections Subcommittee of the Georgia Behavioral Health Reform and Innovation Commission is authorized to submit recommendations to DBHDD regarding the development and future expansion of the program and continue exploring community supervision strategies. The subcommittee is also tasked with continuing to explore community supervision strategies for individuals with mental illnesses.

HB 1013 adds the following persons to the Behavioral Health Coordinating Council: the commissioner of the Department of Early Care and Learning; the commissioner of the Technical College System of Georgia; a behavioral-health expert employed by the University System of Georgia and designated by the chancellor of the university system; the Office of the Child Advocate; an expert on early-childhood mental health appointed by the governor; an expert on child and adolescent health appointed by the governor; and a pediatrician appointed by the governor.

Part V: Child and Adolescent Behavioral Health

DBHDD is to provide the following annual reports to OHSC: complaints made by individuals receiving behavioral health services; status of housing placements and needs; programs designed to serve disabled infants, children, and youth; and performance and fiscal status of each community service board.

HB 1013 clarifies that community service boards provide mental health, developmental disabilities, and addictive diseases services to both adults and children.

The bill adds a deadline of October 1, 2024, for the creation of a statewide system for sharing of data between various state agencies for the purposes of the care and protection of children.

The Multi-Agency Treatment for Children (MATCH) team is established within DBHDD and is composed of members from the following agencies: the Division of Family and Children Services (DFCS); the Department of Juvenile Justice; the Department of Early Care and Learning; the Department of Public Health; the Department of Community Health; the Department of Human Services; the Department of Education; the Office of the Child Advocate; and the Department of Corrections. The MATCH team facilitates cross-agency collaboration to explore resources and solutions for the treatment needs of children.

Part VI: Behavioral Health Reform and Innovation Commission

HB 1013 requires DCH to study and submit a report by December 31, 2022, for its insurance programs (Medicaid, PeachCare for Kids, and the State Health Benefit Plan) that compares reimbursement rates for mental health services to other states; reviews reimbursing providers of mental health care services; provides an accurate accounting of mental health fund distribution across state agencies; reviews medical necessity of denials for adolescent behavioral health services; and implements coordinated health care for foster youth with claims being immediately shared with DFCS.

The Behavioral Health Reform and Innovation Commission is authorized to collaborate with DBHDD to develop assisted outpatient treatment fidelity protocols and education for grantees; consult with DBHDD in the selection of a research consultant or entity; coordinate initiatives to assist local communities to keep those with serious mental illness out of detention facilities; convene with various health plans and providers to examine how to develop a mechanism to meet the behavioral health needs of youth and young adults in state custody; provide adoptive caregivers with necessary support; and establish an advisory committees to evaluate methods to create pathways of care and develop and recommend solutions for appropriate health care services.

The bill requires the Georgia Data Analytic Center Project's administrator to prepare an annual unified report of suspected mental health parity violations with data received from OCI and DCH.

The bill also requires DCH to provide Medicaid coverage for any prescription prescribed to an adult by a licensed practitioner medically necessary for the treatment of delusion and mood disorders, including schizophrenia and bipolar disorder, if certain criteria are met.

The abolishment date of the Behavioral Health Reform and Innovation Commission is extended from June 30, 2023 to June 30, 2025.

Authored By: Rep. David Ralston (7th)

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured

Motions to Agree: (A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)

HB 1147 Game and fish; hunting and trapping of raccoons and opossum year round; authorize

Bill Summary: House Bill 1147 allows for the hunting and trapping of raccoons and opossums year round and removes bag limits.

Authored By: Rep. Trey Rhodes (120th)

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured

Motions to Agree: *(A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)*

Motions to Disagree**HB 1425 Medical cannabis; Governor to issue initial Class 1 and Class 2 production licenses for a limited time period; authorize**

Bill Summary: House Bill 1425, concerning medical cannabis licensing, cancels the November 23, 2020, competitive application request for proposals and directs the Medical Cannabis Commission to take all needed steps to purchase or obtain necessary quantities of low-THC oil or other similar products from an available legal source. The commission is directed to take all necessary steps to provide for low-THC oil dispensation, including the development and issuance of dispensing licenses for independent pharmacies and designated universities. The commission shall issue a new competitive application request no later than December 31, 2022, to award two initial Class 1 production licenses and four initial Class 2 production licenses. Applicants who submitted prior applications may submit a proposal without paying an additional application fee. Reporting requirements to the Medical Cannabis Commission Oversight Committee are established. The application request will be managed by the Department of Administrative Services, evaluated by an independent third party, and subject to state purchasing and open records laws. For every increase of 50,000 patients, the commission shall issue one additional Class 1 and one additional Class 2 license. Ulcerative colitis is added to the list of eligible conditions.

Authored By: Rep. William Werkheiser (157th)

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured

Motions to Disagree: *(A motion to disagree sends the bill back to the Senate for consideration.)*

Rules Calendar**HR 625 State of Georgia; establish Georgia Gullah Geechee Heritage Society; encourage**

Bill Summary: House Resolution 625 encourages the State of Georgia to establish a Georgia Gullah Geechee Heritage Society. The resolution recognizes the tradition of the Gullah Geechee culture such as the history, music, dance, and other art forms.

Authored By: Rep. Carl Gilliard (162nd)

Rule Applied: Modified-Open

House Committee: Special Rules

Committee Action: 03-22-2022 Do Pass

Floor Vote: Yeas: 164 Nays: 1

Amendments:

Floor Action: Adopted (Resolution)

HR 1025 State of Georgia; recognize copper as critical; urge for inclusion on official United States Geological Survey Critical Minerals List

Bill Summary: House Bill 1025 recognizes copper as crucial to Georgia's economy and urges its inclusion on the United States Geological Survey's List of Critical Minerals.

Authored By: Rep. Bruce Williamson (115th)

Rule Applied: Modified-Open

House Committee: Natural Resources & Environment

Committee Action: 03-24-2022 Do Pass

Floor Vote: Yeas: 162 Nays: 1

Amendments:

Floor Action: Adopted (Resolution)

SB 319 "Georgia Constitutional Carry Act of 2021"; enact

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 319 repeals the requirement for a weapons carry license for those who are not otherwise ineligible to possess and carry a firearm.

Authored By: Sen. Jason Anavitarte (31st)
House Public Safety & Homeland Security
Committee:
Floor Vote: Yeas: 100 Nays: 67

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 03-24-2022 Do Pass by Committee
Action: Substitute
Amendments:

SB 343 Retirement; prohibition of granting postretirement benefit adjustments to any individual who became a member on or after July 1, 2009; remove

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 343 specifies that forfeited leave payments for retirements that become effective prior to July 1, 2022, will not have to be paid by the employer; instead, these payments will be factored into actuarial assumptions for the Employees' Retirement System of Georgia (ERS) and paid as part of the annual defined employer contribution (ADEC). Currently, employers contribute amounts relating to creditable service for forfeited leave payments. The bill also changes the 401(k) match for the Georgia State Employees' Pension and Savings Plan (GSEPS). Employers will contribute up to a maximum of five percent of the employee's salary and 0.5 percent for each year of the member's creditable service after five years, for a maximum employer match of nine percent at thirteen years. This bill is certified by the Georgia Department of Audits and Accounts as a non-fiscal retirement bill.

Authored By: Sen. Chuck Hufstetler (52nd)
House Retirement
Committee:
Floor Vote: Yeas: 168 Nays: 1

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 03-14-2022 Do Pass by Committee
Action: Substitute
Amendments:

SB 361 "Law Enforcement Strategic Support Act" or "LESS Crime Act"; enact

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 361 establishes a tax credit for contributions to 501(c)(3) law enforcement foundations, which are defined as being any domestic non-profit corporation with the sole function of supporting one local law enforcement unit through a formal relationship with such local law enforcement unit. Taxpayers are allowed a 100 percent income tax credit for qualified donations to law enforcement foundations provided that a single individual or head of household shall not be allowed a credit of more than \$5,000; a married couple, individual who is a member of a limited liability company, a shareholder of a Subchapter 'S' corporation, or a partner in a partnership shall not be allowed a credit of more than \$10,000; and a corporation shall not be allowed a credit of more than 75 percent of the corporation's income tax liability. This tax credit has an annual aggregate cap of \$75 million and a per law enforcement foundation cap of three million dollars per year. Qualified expenditures by the law enforcement foundations include bonus payments or training of law enforcement officers; purchase, lease, maintenance, or improvement of equipment to be used by law enforcement officers; or costs incurred by the local law enforcement unit for the operation of an emergency response team that combines law enforcement officers and behavioral health specialists.

Authored By: Sen. Larry Walker III (20th)
House Ways & Means
Committee:
Floor Vote: Yeas: 153 Nays: 5

Rule Applied: Structured
Committee 03-29-2022 Do Pass by Committee
Action: Substitute
Amendments:

SB 363 "Fair Business Practices Act of 1975,"; class action suits and for damages for violating the requirements for solicitations for corporate filings; provide

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 363 requires solicitations related to corporate filings or employment/labor posters or notices to be labeled as solicitations. Notice that the material is a solicitation and not an official government document shall be on the front of any envelope and include at the top of the page that the solicitation has not been sent by the Secretary of State or the Department of Labor. A violation of this Code section may be brought in a representative capacity and may be the subject of a class action, with damages being the actual damages or \$200, whichever is greater.

Authored By: Sen. Blake Tillery (19th)
House Judiciary
Committee:
Floor Vote: Yeas: 169 Nays: 0

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee
Action:
Amendments:

SB 374 Georgia Data Analytic Center; establish as an agent of all executive state agencies; definitions; provide

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 374 defines the Georgia Data Analytic Center (GDAC) as an agent of all executive state agencies that shares and receives government information. Executive state agencies shall cooperate with GDAC requests for receipt of or access to data unless an attorney general review determines and explains that the request would result in a violation of law. Sharing of data to and from GDAC does not constitute a disclosure or release under law, and any confidential or privileged designation of government information shall be maintained when sharing with GDAC. Protections for individually identifiable information are included, with criminal penalties for obtaining, attempting to obtain, negligently communicating, or disclosing methods for securing individually identifiable information.

Senate Bill 374 also concerns user fees, requiring the collection of fees imposed by law, rule, or regulation to be paid into the State Treasury. Additionally, departments and agencies charged with collecting user fees shall report to the House and Senate budget offices by August 1 of each year both whether each existing user fee sufficiently covers the costs of the corresponding services as well as whether an opportunity for a new user fee exists.

Authored By: Sen. Blake Tillery (19th)
House Judiciary
Committee:
Floor Vote: Yeas: 163 Nays: 0

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 03-28-2022 Do Pass by Committee
Action: Substitute
Amendments:

SB 379 State Board of the Technical College System of Georgia; establish a program to promote the creation and expansion of registered apprenticeship programs in the state; provide

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 379 amends the O.C.G.A. by adding a new article, 20-4-150, that establishes a program to promote the creation and expansion of registered apprenticeship programs in the state. This program, called the "High-demand Career Initiatives Program," is under the Office of Workforce Development and has the purpose of incentivizing apprenticeship sponsors to establish new or grow existing registered apprenticeship programs in Georgia in order to expand high-quality work-based learning experiences in high-demand fields and careers of the state. Upon successful completion of the requirements under a contract of an employer sponsor, that sponsor receives a completion reward up to \$10,000 per apprentice.

Authored By: Sen. Brian Strickland (17th)
House Higher Education
Committee:
Floor Vote: Yeas: 166 Nays: 1

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 03-28-2022 Do Pass
Action:
Amendments:

SB 403 "Georgia Behavioral Health and Peace Officer Co-Responder Act"; enact

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 403 requires each community service board to establish a co-responder program to work with local law enforcement agencies responding to emergency calls involving people in a behavioral health crisis. Law enforcement agencies have the option to collaborate with co-responder programs and can consider input from the community service board when determining where to refer the individual. Community service boards team members must be available in person or virtually during related emergency calls. Emergency facilities that receive individuals transported by the team for evaluation are required to notify the community service board prior to release of the admitted individual. Any law enforcement agency or community service board along with their personnel will be immune from civil or criminal liability for their actions done in good faith related to team dispatch, incarceration of an individual, transportation to an emergency receiving facility, and not taking someone into custody.

Authored By: Sen. Ben Watson (1st)
House Health & Human Services
Committee:
Floor Vote: Yeas: 165 Nays: 0

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 03-14-2022 Do Pass by Committee
Action: Substitute
Amendments:

SB 404 Emergency Medical Services Personnel; Georgia Bureau of Investigation and the Federal Bureau of Investigation to retain certain fingerprints under certain conditions; authorize
Bill Summary: Senate Bill 404 authorizes the Georgia Bureau of Investigation and the Federal Bureau of Investigation to retain fingerprints obtained if the Department of Public Health is participating in a program in which they are providing criminal background checks that are authorized for the purpose of determining suitability for employment, placement, registration, a permit, or a license for an agency or entity that is participating in the federal program which allows for the ongoing and continuing review of the individual's criminal history as it relates to emergency medical services personnel. The department is required to notify the individual whose fingerprints are taken of the parameters of retention.

Authored By: Sen. John Albers (56th)
House Public Safety & Homeland Security
Committee:
Floor Vote: Yeas: 159 Nays: 6

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 03-24-2022 Do Pass by Committee
Action: Substitute
Amendments:

SB 553 Watercraft; any person 15 years of age or older to operate a Class 1, Class 2, or Class 3 vessel; authorize

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 553 allows a person 15 years or older to operate a Class 1, Class 2, or Class 3 vessel on state waters if the individual has proper identification or an instruction permit and is accompanied by an adult that is 18 years or older. The accompanying adult must also be authorized to operate the vessel and be able to take control of the vessel.

Authored By: Sen. Randy Robertson (29th)
House Game, Fish, & Parks
Committee:
Floor Vote: Yeas: 162 Nays: 6

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 03-24-2022 Do Pass
Action:
Amendments:

SR 463 Joint Study Committee on the Electrification of Transportation; create

Bill Summary: Senate Resolution 463 creates the Joint Study Committee on the Electrification of Transportation.

Authored By: Sen. Steve Gooch (51st)
House Transportation
Committee:
Floor Vote: Yeas: 167 Nays: 0
Floor Action: Adopted (Resolution)

Rule Applied: Modified-Open
Committee 03-24-2022 Do Pass
Action:
Amendments:

Local Calendar

HB 1604 Adel, City of; change corporate limits

Bill Summary: House Bill 1604 changes the corporate limits of the city of Adel.

Authored By: Rep. Penny Houston (170th)
House Intragovernmental Coordination -
Committee: Local
Floor Vote: Yeas: 159 Nays: 5

Rule Applied:
Committee 03-29-2022 Do Pass
Action:
Amendments:

HB 1605 Claxton, City of; powers and election of the mayor and city council; restate and revise provisions

Bill Summary: House Bill 1605 revises provisions relating to the powers and election of the mayor and city council of Claxton.

Authored By: Rep. William Werkheiser (157th)
House Intragovernmental Coordination -
Committee: Local
Floor Vote: Yeas: 159 Nays: 5

Rule Applied:
Committee 03-30-2022 Do Pass
Action:
Amendments:

HB 1606 Houston County; Probate Court; authorize assessment and collection of a technology fee

Bill Summary: House Bill 1606 authorizes the assessment and collection of a technology fee by the Houston County Probate Court.

Authored By:	Rep. Heath Clark (147th)	Rule Applied:	
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	03-29-2022 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 159 Nays: 5	Amendments:	

HB 1607 Taylor County; ad valorem tax for educational purposes; provide homestead exemption

Bill Summary: House Bill 1607 provides a homestead exemption from Taylor County school taxes in the amount of 10 percent of the assessed value of the homestead for residents who are between 70 and 74 years of age, in the amount of 15 percent for residents who are between 75 and 79 years of age, and in the amount of 20 percent for residents who are 80 years of age or older.

Authored By:	Rep. Patty Bentley (139th)	Rule Applied:	
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	03-29-2022 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 159 Nays: 5	Amendments:	

SB 632 Rockdale County School District; ad valorem taxes for educational purposes; increase the exemption

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 632 increases a Rockdale County School District senior homestead exemption to \$50,000.

Authored By:	Sen. Tonya Anderson (43rd)	Rule Applied:	
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	03-29-2022 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 159 Nays: 5	Amendments:	

SB 635 Henry County; compensation of such judge of the Probate Court; change the provisions

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 635 changes provisions relating to the compensation of the Henry County Probate Court judge. The judge shall receive an annual salary equal to 90 percent of the then-current total compensation, including the base salary and supplements, of the judges of the Flint Judicial Circuit.

Authored By:	Sen. Brian Strickland (17th)	Rule Applied:	
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	03-29-2022 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 159 Nays: 5	Amendments:	

SB 637 City of Senoia Building and Facilities Authority; create

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 637 creates the city of Senoia Building and Facilities Authority.

Authored By:	Sen. Matt Brass (28th)	Rule Applied:	
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	03-29-2022 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 159 Nays: 5	Amendments:	

SB 638 Rockdale County Public Facilities Authority; create

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 638 creates the Rockdale County Public Facilities Authority.

Authored By:	Sen. Tonya Anderson (43rd)	Rule Applied:	
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	03-30-2022 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 159 Nays: 5	Amendments:	

Committee Actions

Bills passing committees are reported to the Clerk's Office and are placed on the General Calendar.

Agriculture & Consumer Affairs Committee

HR 943 House Healthy Food Retail Study Committee; create

Bill Summary: House Resolution 943 creates the House Healthy Food Retail Study Committee. The speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint five members of the House as well as four non-legislative members, as follows: two individuals from the retail food industry; the commissioner of the Department of Community Affairs, or his or her designee; and one individual that resides in an area without quality retail food options.

Authored By:	Rep. Karen Bennett (94th)	Committee	03-30-2022 Do Pass
House	Agriculture & Consumer Affairs	Action:	
Committee:			

Energy, Utilities & Telecommunications Committee

HR 1147 President of the United States; consider current geopolitical tensions and support policies and take measures to ensure America's long-term energy affordability, security, leadership, and progress; urge

Bill Summary: House Resolution 1147 urges the president of the United States to consider current geopolitical tensions and support policies and take measures to ensure America's long-term energy affordability, security, leadership, and progress. Measures include actions that result in the continued operation of existing oil and natural gas pipelines, the construction of new pipelines, and an end to restrictions on developing the nation's onshore and offshore oil and natural resources.

Authored By:	Rep. Emory Dunahoo (30th)	Committee	03-30-2022 Do Pass
House	Energy, Utilities &	Action:	
Committee:	Telecommunications		

Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

HB 1603 Sylvester, City of; Public Facilities Authority; revise definition of "project"

Bill Summary: House Bill 1603 revises the definition of "project" as it relates to the city of Sylvester Public Facilities Authority and provides for the reversion of assets upon the dissolution of the authority.

Authored By:	Rep. Bill Yearta (152nd)	Committee	03-30-2022 Do Pass
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Action:	
Committee:	Local		

HB 1605 Claxton, City of; powers and election of the mayor and city council; restate and revise provisions

Bill Summary: House Bill 1605 revises provisions relating to the powers and election of the mayor and city council of Claxton.

Authored By:	Rep. William Werkheiser (157th)	Committee	03-30-2022 Do Pass
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Action:	
Committee:	Local		

SB 636 Board of Education of Warren County; compensation provisions for the chairperson and for members of the board; revise

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 636 revises the compensation for the Warren County Board of Education. The chairperson shall receive \$250 per meeting and the other members of the board shall receive \$200 per meeting.

Authored By: Sen. Max Burns (23rd)
House Committee: Intragovernmental Coordination - Local
Committee Action: 03-30-2022 Do Pass

SB 638 Rockdale County Public Facilities Authority; create

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 638 creates the Rockdale County Public Facilities Authority.

Authored By: Sen. Tonya Anderson (43rd)
House Committee: Intragovernmental Coordination - Local
Committee Action: 03-30-2022 Do Pass

Committee Meeting Schedule

This meeting schedule is up to date at the time of this report, but meeting dates and times are subject to change. To keep up with the latest schedule, please visit www.house.ga.gov and click on [Meetings Calendar](#).

Thursday - March 31, 2022

9:00 AM	STATE PLANNING & COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE	506 CLOB HYBRID	VIDEO Agenda
10:00 AM	Special Committee on Access to Quality Health Care	506 CLOB HYBRID	VIDEO Agenda
10:00 AM	PUBLIC SAFETY & HOMELAND SECURITY COMMITTEE	406 CLOB HYBRID	VIDEO Agenda
10:00 AM	EDUCATION COMMITTEE	341 CAP HYBRID	VIDEO Agenda
11:00 AM	JUDICIARY NON-CIVIL COMMITTEE	132 CAP HYBRID	VIDEO Agenda
12:00 PM	HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE	506 CLOB HYBRID	VIDEO Agenda
1:00 PM	HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE	406 CLOB HYBRID	VIDEO Agenda
2:00 PM	Transportation Resolutions Sub-Committee	506 CLOB HYBRID	VIDEO Agenda
2:15 PM	TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE	506 CLOB HYBRID	VIDEO Agenda
3:00 PM	JUDICIARY NON-CIVIL COMMITTEE	132 CAP HYBRID	VIDEO Agenda